Alan Levine SECRETARY

## Department of Health and Hospitals

Immunization Program

## Novel H1N1 Vaccine Healthcare Provider Registration Louisiana

## Dear Colleague:

To protect the public from novel H1N1 influenza virus this fall, the U.S. government will provide states with federally funded novel H1N1 vaccine and supplies. Novel H1N1 flu vaccine is not available through the routine vaccine purchasing and distribution mechanisms and will be available for distribution in incremental allotments to Louisiana providers only from the Louisiana Office of Public Health (LAOPH) - Immunization Program.

The Louisiana Office of Public Health is extending the opportunity to receive and administer novel H1N1 vaccine to all interested immunizing health care providers in the state. In order to receive State/Federally-supplied novel H1N1 vaccine, you must register using this online system. The registration form must be completed in its entirety. Please refer to http://www.flula.com for more information on the novel H1N1 flu and vaccine situation.

## Registration

All Louisiana facilities/providers that offer immunizations and intend to receive and administer novel H1N1 vaccine should register at <a href="https://linksweb.oph.dhh.louisiana.gov/linksweb/main.jsp">https://linksweb.oph.dhh.louisiana.gov/linksweb/main.jsp</a> . This will allow us to:

- 1. Determine the number of providers interested in providing this vaccine,
- 2. Pre-populate databases, facilitating a more streamlined process, and
- 3. Communicate with you on a regular basis as planning proceeds.

Key Points on Vaccine Registration:

- Registration is open to all facilities/providers offering immunization services in Louisiana.
- There is no cost to register.
- Registered providers are under no obligation to complete a formal registration agreement. (Some aspects of the H1N1 vaccine program have not been finalized. As these issues are clarified, registered providers may decide whether or not they will participate in the program). Only those who agree to the terms of the final Provider Agreement may receive the vaccine.
- The state of Louisiana cannot guarantee the timing or size of individual vaccine shipments.
- Providers will be asked to record information on vaccine administered into LINKS, the state's immunization information system. Additional information on this will be forthcoming.
- For questions about registration, contact the Louisiana Immunization Program at 1-877-799-9773.

After you complete and submit the registration, a page will appear with a <u>Registration ID</u> number. Please print this page and save this ID number for your records. You will need this ID number to make novel H1N1 vaccine orders in the future.

You only need to complete the registration ONCE per site; however, if you have significant changes, you may complete a replacement registration.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Guidry, M.D.

State Health Officer/DHH Medical Director